

**NC COMMISSION FOR MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES  
Advisory Committee Minutes**

Double Tree Hotel  
1707 Hillsborough Street  
Raleigh, NC

**Thursday, April 25, 2013  
9:30 a.m.**

**Commission Members Attending:**

James R. Bowman, Anna Cunningham, Beverly Morrow, Kevin Oliver, Dr. Greg Olley, John Owen, Don Trobaugh, Linda Warden, Dr. Marian Spencer

**Excused Absences:**

John S. Carbone, Nancy E. Moore, Elizabeth Ramos

**Division Staff:**

W. Denise Baker, Marta T. Hester, Andrea Borden

**Call To Order:**

Dr. Greg Olley, Chairman, NC Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (Commission), called the meeting to order at approximately 9:50am. Dr. Olley requested a moment of reflection, issued the ethics statement and conflict of interest reminder. Member introductions followed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

*Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the Advisory Committee approved the minutes of the February 28, 2013 Advisory Committee meeting.*

Following the approval of the minutes, Dr. Olley discussed the handout on legislation as part of his Chairman's Report. The handout was composed of legislation introduced by the NC General Assembly, which may be of interest or, if passed, require action by the NC Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. The legislation discussed is listed below:

- **Session Law 2013-18 - An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Incapacity to Proceed**  
W. Denise Baker, Team Leader, Division Affairs Team, Operations Support Section, NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (NC DMH/DD/SAS) informed the members of the Commission's rulemaking authority and the rulemaking timeline specified within in the legislation. Ms. Baker also advised that Dr. Ureh Lekwauwa, Chief, Clinical Policy, NC DMH/DD/SAS, will lead a workgroup to work on the rules required in Session Law 2013-18 and it will also be discussed further at the Rules Committee meeting. Dr. Olley extended an invitation to the Commission members to sit on the workgroup. Beverly Morrow, Commission member, commented there should be written time lapses notated for the period of time individuals are waiting to go to trial as part of the rules drafted to implement the legislation.
- **House Bill 580 – Establish Statewide Telepsychiatry Program**
- **Senate Bill 562 – Establish Statewide Telepsychiatry Program**  
Dr. Olley advised that the Division of Medical Assistance already has a policy on telepsychiatry that this is a Rules Committee issue.
- **House Bill 622 – Appointee Serves at Pleasure of Appointer**

This bill generated a significant amount of discussion from Commission members based upon the cost involved. Concerns included turnover resulting in loss of knowledge and expertise on boards and commissions which members gain over time will be loss due to frequent turnover from appointments and the inability to prevent boards from doing their work due to membership instability.

*Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the Advisory Committee approved the following action: to pass their concerns on to the Rules Committee and vote electronically as a full Commission to send a letter of concern expressing their opposition to House Bill 622 to the Secretary, NC Department of Health and Human Services.*

- **House Bill 981 – New MHDDSA Region & Psych. Hospital**  
Dr. Olley mentioned the bill as a point of information.
- **Senate Bill 206 – Strengthen Controlled Sub. Reporting System**  
Dr. Olley mentioned the Commission's rulemaking authority in Senate Bill 206; he noted that the Rules Committee would discuss this legislation at its afternoon meeting.
- **Senate Bill 663 – Blue Ribbon Comm. Recs./Supportive MH Housing**

**New Business: Selection of Advisory Committee Chairperson:**

Dr. Olley asked for nominations for a new Advisory Committee Chairperson and inquired as to whether anyone was interested. Anna Cunningham was recommended. The Advisory Committee Chairperson will be determined at a later date. Upon arrival, Ms. Cunningham expressed her willingness to serve but asked that Committee members understand that family matters may impede her timely arrival on occasion.

**Review & Discussion of Community Capacity Matrix Evaluation Form(s):**

Ms. Cunningham disseminated a handout, *Suggested Database Items for Matrix for NC Commission for MHDDSA*s, and asked the Advisory Committee members to list their top five (5) topics of importance for the Commission to study and address. She agreed to compile all of the information and send it to the full commission. While there was an opportunity for each of the members to share their primary issues of concern, the main topics are listed below:

- Capacity for Educational Resources and Capacity for Housing in all Disability Areas;
- Education and Training;
- Outreach in Communities to Provide for a Better Understanding of People with MH/DD/SAS issues;
- Drug Security for Prescription Mail Orders (especially Veterans);
- Older Adults should be screened for Substance Abuse;
- Capacity in Communities as it applies to Adolescents;
- Direction of Mental Health Reform;
- Quality of Care;
- MCOs and the Need for Statewide Policies;
- Need to Develop a better Statewide Provider and Resources List;
- Lack of Knowledge from providers about Controlled Substance Reporting System;
- Involuntary Commitment and Lack of Capacity;
- Concrete Measurable Care and Gaps in Services;
- Assessment of IDD/DD Community;
- MCOs need to Develop a Matrix on Budgeting Management and Distribution;
- Transportation; and
- Best Practices for Medical Providers in the State.

**Next Steps**

Ms. Cunningham collected the members' copies of the handout to compile the topics and redistribute. The Advisory Committee also requested copies of legislation pending during the 2013-14 session on behavioral health care and due process.

**Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

**Adjournment:**

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00noon.*